CLAIMS

[001] A method for washing laundry in a process-controlled household washing machine comprising a wash liquid container for receiving laundry and wash liquid intended for washing the laundry, wherein or whereon a heating device and a temperature sensor are attached, wherein water for washing is poured into the wash liquid container during a filling phase and the temperature sensor delivers signals for the respective temperature of the water or the wash liquid to the process control system during the washing phase and said process control system derives commands for controlling the heating device for heating the wash liquid from the temperature signals and wherein the washing process runs with a heating phase which begins with switching on the heating device and a post-wash phase without adding further energy, and lasts for a defined constant time from the beginning of switching on the heating device until the end of the post-wash phase, characterised in that

- the temperature of the water or the wash liquid is determined at or after the end of the filling (F) with water,
- that at a determined temperature of less than a standard value (S) for the amount of water which has freshly run into the wash liquid container before the beginning of the washing process (W) the heating device is switched on and
- that the beginning of the washing process (W) is delayed by a defined time interval $(t_{OK} - t_{OS})$.

[002] The method according to claim 1, characterised in that the temperature is first determined during the filling (F) with water or wash liquid and before or during switching off the heating device.

[003] The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the standard value (S) lies in the range of 10°C to 15°C.

[004] The method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the time interval $(t_{OK} - t_{OS})$ is defined by reaching the standard value (S).

[005]   The method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the time
interval ($t_{OK} - t_{0S}$) has a pre-defined length.